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MEDIA ADVISORY FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Veterinarians and Livestock Officers Inspect Over 1,200 Animals at Arizona National Livestock Show

(Phoenix) -- Three livestock officers and two veterinarians are scouting out animals pouring into the Arizona National Livestock Show, located at the state fairgrounds. In addition to checking for identification, inspectors are looking for any signs of illness. This is important because of the potential impact a communicable disease could have on so many animals in one location.

What is the procedure?

When an animal enters from another state, the animal must have a prior entry permit and a current veterinary health certificate. These documents show not only the identification of the animal, but prove the animal is in good health. This is extremely important in making sure diseases are not being carried from one state to the next.



What happens when the animal leaves to return home or head to a new state?

Prior to the show, the department calls all states to get the latest requirements for the animal to enter into any given state. When it is time to leave, an Assistant State Veterinarian will let the handler of the animal know what is required, based on their destination.



In addition, the department's inspectors will check the health of the animal and write a health certificate so the next state has proof the animal was in good standing when it left Arizona.

Do you charge for this service?

The department volunteers its staff for this event and charges for health certificates. However, all monies earned through health certificates are then contributed to the Livestock Show Scholarship Fund, which gives away over \$30,000 each year.



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